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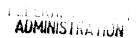
Gerry Dinnaver 1651 Margeo Dra Neenah, Wi 54956 1745

Phase consider my comments regarding FWHA
Docket # MC 96-28. In regards to drivers
hours of service. There is a need to bring
the hours of service into the 1990's and beyond
and out of the 1950's. With modern trucks
highways and higher horsepower engines it is
easier to so more with less fatique
One way to cut down on driver fatique is to get
the driver off of the loading docks and make
the shipper and receiver responsible for land
count sex ting palletizing and other work that
takes away from the drivers day & sleep time.
When I received my CDL I was under the
impression it stood for Commercial Drivers License.
Not Combination Driver Lumper.

Make it a priority to eliminate split speed limits there is more stress created with this arrange ment than you could believe. If you don't think it's stressful try it yourself sometime. Drive 55 MPH AND let the rest of the traffic do there thing. Thank you for taking my comments Sweerely Geny Dimmoni

PAGE LA

FHWA Docket No. MC-96-28 FHA DOT 400 Seventh St, SW, Room 4232 Washington, DC 20590



To whom it may concern,

96 DEC 8 AIO: 07

RE: Comment about hours of service. Rules & more rules? Won't help.

What is the difference whether you work for 12 wours. S. Ow. drive for 12 hours? There are many jobs where a person works 12 hours a day. Yet truck drivers are limited to 10 hours a day driving? I think this limit should be raised to allow at least 12 to 15 hours driving a day.

If you FHA people really want to attack issues that concern driver and public safety, then find out the real problems at hand. Name me the first product available that tests for carbon monoxide levels in a truck. None. What the statisticians want to do is classify many accidents as fatigue related, when in fact, the driver was overcome by carbon monoxide fumes. I've been victim to such poisoning, both in home, and in vehicle because of worn out products. Doctors couldn't even find the cause of side effects. One symptom of carbon monoxide poisoning is a sudden and uniquely strong urge to close the eyes. It is much different from fatigue. No amount of sleep or rest will remedy a leaky exhaust problem. We need carbon monoxide detectors in trucks to monitor for this otherwise undetectable poison.

Sometimes a person can drive for 12 hours in an alert state. Other times they can feel sleepy after only an hour in the driver's seat. One of the major problems drivers face is when they do get tired, there is no place to pull over to get needed rest. Rest areas can be hours apart, and most are usually filled beyond capacity leaving no room for parking a big truck when a person needs rest the most. The same over crowding exists in truck stops. When we get tired, we need rest then, not two to five hours later when a spot can be found to park. If I drive for nine hours, and then it takes five hours to find a vacant parking place, whose fault is it for violation of the 10 hour of driving rule? If you really want to help curb fatigue accidents, you can help by providing more facilities along the interstates and state highways for drivers. Especially large parking areas that trucks can fit in.

I don't need more rules and enforcement. I need adequately spaced parking facilities so that I won't have to keep driving when my body tells me to stop. I need a carbon monoxide detector for my truck to alert me of dangerously high levels of deadly exhaust inside the cab. Stop being so nit-picky about how many hours someone drives and listen to the needs of truck drivers. None of us wish to die because of fatigue either.

11/29/96

Robert Nykvist

6275 Carol Plantation Road

Lot - 6,

Theodore, AL 36582

Schneider National Carriers

Driver# 47243

DOCKET_MC-96-28-8
PAGE_____OF____

To the members of The General Counsels To of service system is out dated canel out of touch with Tadays needs not the american trucker. The following is my oppinion of how things could be changed to benefit all who would be affected by any changes. I would like to see changes in the hours of service as follows: 12 hrs on duty, 8 hrs oft duty after an 8 hr break a would have a new 12 hrs onduty. Once the driver reaches 80 hrs, it would be manditory that the driver take a 24 hr. shut down, Once the 24hr Shut down is complete, the hours of service would then revert back to O It a driver completes a 24hr shutdown" hours of service would revert back To O also, It adriver completes 2 consecutive 80hr services, upon fulfilling the 2nd 80 hr service the driver would then be required to shut down "48" consecutive DOCKET_MC-96-28-4 hours. PAGE / DF

As for regulation of shippers and receivers, I feel strongly that they should be required to loud and unload all freight. This is an area that has indead, been abused for many years. Drivers are being pushed to Their limits To make a delivery on time, only to find out when they get there, that they must unload or load their own Trailor, sometimes spending 8 or 10 hrs more on the dock trying to get M.T. It a rule such as I've staighted were inforced, it would not only allow drivers to get the rest they need, inturn making the highways safer, it would also create jubs, Badly needed Johs at that. In closing I would like to express
my apriciation for your allowing comment from the men and women who are actually in The trenches Purhaps this will give you abetter picture of whow things really work out here. Thank you very much DOCKET MC-96-28-9 COL # C 513-5506-0308

634 S. 1st Cariton Il. 61520

Re: Hours of Server regulations DOCKET #MC 96-28 D) FHWA / GENERAL COUNCIL HTHE DOWALD OF WIRTH 5170 KINGS CORNERS RD ROMLIAUS N.Y. 14541 The current rules do NOT ensure safety on the highways - they only invite subversion by drivers trying to earn a living while also furthering the temptation of law enforcement to treat violations of the rules is a source Real highway safety has always been and will always be, regardless of regulations the tangible result of conscientions, attentive, considerate, defensive drivers. The millions of miles driven every day by these good drivers is testimony to their capacity for self monitoring. of revenue. These good drivers support the efforts of police to Stop excessive speeding, taid gateing and abuses of the right of way by that small percentage of drivers who by their abuse create the abundance of incidents and accidents on our roadways. Better education along with consistent good low en-lovement and strong penalties given to those who continue to Comprimise sofety is preferable to any distrary regulation therefore I support the development of sensible guidelines for drivers, shippers, receivers and carriers with suitable. penalties for abusers and the abolishment of hop books and the hours of service regulations DOCKET_MC-96-28-10

November 16, 1996 67 Spruce Road Reading, Massachusetts 01867

Docket Number MC 96-28 Attn: Office of the General Counsel FHWA 400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20590

Re: Hours of Service

Regulation of Shippers and Receivers



First, I would like to address the issue of "hours of service" regulations. It is a fact that fatigued equipment operators experience a decline in judgement ability and reflexes. When the equipment operator is a truck driver, sitting atop an 80,000lb mountain of iron moving down the highway at 65 mph, any lapse in judgement or reflex can be disasterous. The trucking industry today is operating on razor thin margins. Due to industry overcapacity, increasing freight rates is not a viable option for trucking companies. Within these operating parameters, the only method trucking companies have to increase profits is by increasing the miles per day traveled or loads per day hauled by each piece of equipment. As a result of this, they tend to pressure the truck drivers and owner/operators to "run faster, run longer, and run harder". Within this breeding ground of operator fatigue, the "hours of service" regulations are the only protection available to the truck driver and the motoring public, My experience as a driver has led me to the conclusion that there are two problems with the "hours of service" regulations:

- 1) The provision that allows for 15 hours of total "on duty" time (FMC Safety Regs 395.3,a,2). interestingly, the provision that allows for 10 hours of driving has never been a problem for me or any of my associates.
- 2) The 15/8 (395.3,a,2) and 10/8 (395.3,a,1) provisions that allow a driver to return to driving status after 8 hours of rest following a 15 hour "on duty" or 10 hour "driving" shift.

The 15 hour "on duty" status effectively creates a 15 hour work day. It is quite unrealistic to assume a human being can work that long without being overcome by fatigue. In the truck drivers case, his 15 hour day often includes; physically loading and unloading the truck, poor diet, inability to expel bodily waste on a regular basis, and stress induces by the uncontrollable driving habits of other motorists.

The 15/8 and 1018 provisions make it impossible for human beings to adapt to a regular work/rest schedule. These provisions create a 10 hour on/8 hour off (or 15 on/8 off) cycle that force the trucker to become both a day and night shift worker without allowing him the time needed to adapt to either shift, Numerous studies have shown that interruption with the human bodies circadian rythm cycle creates a situation in which the body cannot receive "quality" rest, hence fatigue. For example, using the 10/8 rule, a drivers work week could be as follows:

<u>Day</u>
Monday
Monday/Tuesday
Tuesday/Wednesday
Wednesday/Thursday
Thursday/Friday
Friday/Saturday

Working hours
5:00am to 3:00pm
11:00pm to 9:00am
5:00pm to 3:00am
11:00am to 9:00pm
5:00am to 3:00pm

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11:00pm to 9:00am **at this point the driver has used

up all his allowable hours in a 7 day week under the 60/7 rule (395.3, b, 1)

I believe the FWHA should adopt a 12/12 rule; 12 hours "on duty" then "12 hours "off duty". The 12 hours "on duty" should include the three categories that currently comprise the trucker's time status when he is not "off duty": they are "driving", "sleeper berth", and "on duty". This system would create a more stable work environment in which the driver's body could adapt to regular rest periods. A driver would either be a first shift or a second shift driver. It is imperative, for public safety reasons, that no exceptions be granted to this rule. I realize that currently spokespeople for individual industries (specifically agriculture and construction) are lobbying for exemption from the "hours of services" rules due to the "special demands" of their industries. Please bear in mind that a truck loaded with produce or cement will slam into a family minivan with the same horrible, destructive force as a truck loaded with chemicals or lumber.

This rule would benefit all the parties directly invovled. Truck drivers would be less fatigued, safer operators. The motoring public would be safer. The government may be able to take credit for this as "job creation act" because trucking companies may be motivated to hire more drivers to satisfy all their freight movement demands in two regular shifts. Finally, the trucking companies may benefit. Driver's ability to work regular, fixed shifts may increase their morale. This could reduce the costly problem of driver retention faced by many trucking companies. Alert drivers are more likely to avoid accidents so companies can avoid the costly litigation associated with them. Happy, rested drivers convey a better image of the company and would be more inclined to go that extra step to ensure customer satisfaction where the trailer meets the dock.

Second, I would like to address the issue of regulation of shippers and recievers. With the advent of trucking deregulation and the decline in Teamster power and influence, loading and unloading trucks has become one of the truck drivers duties. This occurs because shippers and receivers, in their efforts to reduce their costs, are able to force the cost of loading/unloading labor back onto the trucking companies. The trucking companies, in a short sighted effort to "remain competitive", maintain that the use of drivers to load and unload is a "value added" service to the customer. In reality, no value is added, since they cannot raise their rates to cover the cost of having drivers perform non driving work. The bottom line for the trucker is that he often must load and unload the entire contents of his 48' to 53' dry van or refrigerated trailer alone while an employee of the shipper or receiver merely verifies the count on the items delivered or shipped.

The sedentary nature of a driver's job, his diet, and his working hours create an individual who is most likely less physically fit and healthy than the average individual. Expecting this individual to lift, sort, and palletize anywhere from 20,000 to 45,000 pounds of cargo, alone, and then drive away alert and safety conscious is ludicrous. The result of this policy: accidents accidents accidents.

I believe the solution to this problem is a simple rule rather than an extensive regulatory policy. Shippers and receivers should be fined \$1000 for every pound of cargo on a truck if the truck driver is forced to load or unload. A toll free hot line should be established for truckers to report incidents of this driver abuse. A team of investigators should then be dispatched to arrive at the offending company, unannounced, and proceed immediately to the shipping/receiving area Every person unloading or loading a truck should be identified immediately. If any drivers are found handling cargo, the shipper/receiver is immediately fined. The essence of this rule is to protect the public and truck drivers from trucking companies and shippers/receivers who do not take into account the impact on public safety of their cost reduction policies.

An exemption to this rule should be implemented when the driver is engaged in "local P&D (pick up and delivery) work' for a trucking company that does not send it's drivers more than 50

DOCKET mc-96-28-11PAGE 2 OF 3 miles from their base termimal. It is the nature of the P&D drivers job to stop at many companies each day, picking up one or two packages at each.

Trucking companies, to their credit, recognize that driver loading and unloading of freight is one of the causes of driver turnover and are attempting to end the practice. Unfortunately, without government assistance, they do not have the economic power to confront the shippers/receivers.

Again, the government could take credit for implementation of this rule as part of a job creation effort. The jobs created would be low skill, but they would be a God send for many of the individuals displaced by the "high-tech global economy" who do not have the experience or education to find stable employment in the information age.

The shutdown of the ICC provides you administrators and legislators with the opportunity to develop America's transportation industry policy in essence from scratch. I am quite confident that you will formulate policy that emphasize the safety and standard of living of America's people. Good luck in your endeavors.

Sincerely

Glenn D. Port

DOCKET MC-96-28-1/PAGE 3 OF 3

ADMINIS INFERENCES

TIM WHITING IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST

TOBE T SOME INPUT FROM THUCKERS IN REGARD TO UPCOMING POSSIBLE CHANGES

REFATED TO LOG BOOKS. FIRST, THANK YOU FOR THE INVITATION TO GIVE YOU SOME OF

HER IDEAS AND FEELINGS CONCERNING THE EVER PRESENT PROBLEM OF LOGS.

This subject is so complex its hard to even beath. Lets try it by me responding to some sample avestions printed in the Decing issue of overbrive magazine, page 8. (see enclosed coff)

A YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT EVERYONES BIOLOGICAL

MAKE-UP DIFFERS. I PERSONALLY COULD DRIVE TWENTY HOURS ONE DRY, THEN THE NEXT DRY,

EVEN WITH 12 hours off DUTY I COULD BEGIN TO DRIVE AND FEEL SLEEPY AFTER TWO HOURS.

EVERYDRY IS DIFFERENT. THE KEY TO KAFE DRIVING AS DAFPING WHEN THE BODY EAYS DAP.

FORCING A DRIVER TO STOP, BRAED ON A FEDERAL REGULATION, WHEN HE ORSHE ISN'T MOST IS

THE MOST UNKAFE THING YOU CAN DO, YOU CAN'T TELL A HUMAN BEING "THE LAW GARS SLEEP NOW"

THE BODY MUST BE IN HEED OF SLEEP, OR IT WILL GET A FEW HOURS OF The MOST MESTLESS

SLEEP, AND WORTHLESS SLEEP YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE.

- (B) I don't even understable this question i
- @ AGRIN, THE FHWA, THE PRESIDENT OF the UNITED
 STATES OF A POLICE OFFICER CAN'T DICTATE WHEN OR IF A HUMAN BEING SHOULD TAKE A BREAK.
 BULLEVEME, AS A PROFESSIONAL DRIVER, HE OR SHE WILL HEED THE CALL OF OUR BODIES. LET US
 LOG OUR DAYS THE WAY WE ACTUALLY PERFORMED OUR DUTIES. YOU'D SEE THAT ONE DAY WE MIGHT
 TAKE MANY BREAKS, THE DEXT DAY, HOHE.
- Or less Journey off buty is certainly the answer to Question (1)
- THESE INSTRUCES, due to THE FACT THAT WE'RE

 THESE LIKE SCAUES, MUST BE CONSIDERED OFF BUTY. BELIEVE ME, WHEN THERE IS STILL

 MILES TO DRIVE, OTHER FICK-UPS OF DELIVERIES TO MAKE, THE MENTAL STIESS AND STRAIN

 OF HOT BEING ABLE TO LOG THESE INSTRUCES AS OFF DUTY AND HIT THE HIGHWAYWITH A

 CLEAR CONSIGNCE AND A LOG BOOK THAT TRULE IT LIKE IT IS, IS ONE OF THE MOST UNSAFE

 WAYA DRIVER MUST PERFORM HIS DUTIES. (SEE PAGE TWO (B))

MENTAL STIESS, ANGUISH, STIANH AND MERUOUSHESS OVER OUR LAGS IS THE SING VE MOST TI FIRE PART OF THE DAY. LET US TELL IT, LOG IT, LIKE WE DID IT. AGAIN, EACH DAY, BIOLOGRAMY symbolic will be different.

F As you know THE Emphicipation Proclamation no abthance justice as the than own early each of deaders and as the particular and the control each received actually determine whether of not we can especate revenue to pay our bills AND FEED OUR FAMILIEL. WE MUST BE ALLOWED TO LOG THIS TERMOST OF GURDATIONS WOST PRINTIC GROUP OF FEOFUE AS OFF DUTY,

IN CLOSING I ASK YOU TO UDDERSTAND

THE DIFFERENCE IN FATIBURE FACTORS OF TODAYS TIVERS COMPARED TO YESTERY BARS FIED Flintstone equip. Power steering, Pic, Go se control, Air sents, Air Suspension, Air inde CARL Adequate Horsetower, Quality Sound Systems account oday's obluges to work and enjoy every minute, people set us free to loc our days the way they went and remove THE MONTOL STIESS AND ET MAIN from EVERY WAKING MINUTE OF OUR WORKING LIVES CONCERNING LOG BOOKS

PLEASE UNDERSTAND ALSO, IF THE WEATHER

forecast ears Ing, secul, for each for example @ 4700 AM coming from the west, LETS SAY, AND PER THE EXISTING LOG REGULATIONS I HAVERT COMPLETED MY & HOLDS OFF AND I'M HEDDING CAST, NORTH OF SOUTH YOU HAVE JUST ENDANGERD NOT ONLY MY LIFE, BUT THE LIVES of our nations people, I, as a professional know its better to leave and beat the weather, Then to SIT, MER YOUR REGULATIONS, TO LEAVE AS THE UNSAFE MOAD COAD IT IS IN COME IN TO PLAY, Adult and on the principal of burden do described all them are staded to be coesso. Another Ending THIS CHEAFE, TIRING, UNHERCHLY MENTAL STRAIN OF LOG BOOKS FROM OUR LIVES.

I've enjoyed tacking with you through

MY FEN. I'M 38 YEARS OLD AN GWINER OPERATUR FREE OF ANY ACCIDENTED REVENCARES CLAIMS" For 19 years over two million miles. If you'd like to inch on other Aspects of THICKING CALL ME ON INT CELLLURE 908-1170-1158 OF AT HOME GOT-259 -9176. MY AGRESS IS POBE 216 CLARKSELRE NJ 03510. Hey, GOTTA GO I THINK I'M OUT OF HOURS. It'S been A REASURE, SINCERELY, REMOTH & BRUSE WAF KEINEY PRINCE VIET NJ





Now is your chance to speak out on hours-ofservice regulations / Merging CDL and medical card / Who is responsible for securing cargo?

Time to make your voice heard on log books

IF YOU WANT the hours-of-service rules changed, it's time to say so. The long-awaited proposed rulemaking on hours of service was finally published in the Federal I&gister on election day, and you have until March 31, 1997, to respond.

The Federal Highway Administration has asked for answers to about 50 questions covering several issues related to hours-of-service regulations. For example:

- How many hours should you be able to drive after at least eight hours off-duty?
- Should nondriving duty time be counted differently from driving time?
- Should the FHWA require rest breaks during a long driving period? If so, how many and how log?
- . Should the time spent traveling in your truck (bobtail or loaded) from terminals to motels and restaurants be considered driving time or off-duty time?
- How should the loading-and unloading of freight, lumpingand engaging in activities other than driving he addressed?
 - andreceivers beconsidered?

The entire list of questions and other information is included'+ 16 pages of the November 5 issue of the Federal Register.

Send your comments to Docket Clerk, Attn. FHWA Docket No. 96-28, FHWA, Room 4232, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. Try to offer specific examples and data to support your responses.

Washington Q&A

Q. Do federal regulations require me, the driver, to personally load, block, brace and tie down the cargo on the truck I'm driving?

A. No. The regulations don't require you personally fo secure the cargo. As a CDL holder, you are required to know how to properly secure the cargo, and you're! responsible for making sure the cargo is properly secured, whether you do it or someone else does.

Q. What's the age limit for having a CDL and driving a truck interstate?

A Federal motor carrier safety regulations don't specify a maximum age limit for commercial drivers.

CDL/medical card merger proposal causes controversy

A decision on merging the CDL system and driver medical certification is taking some time. A group of 25 people is working on a system in which truck and bus drivers would carry a state-issued CDL that includes their medical certification. Drivers would not have a separate medical card. The group, which includes doctors, trucking industry representatives, government officials, insurance industry executives and safety advocates, has met four times to grapple with the issue.

Most industry representatives oppose the proposal, saying the current system works fine. Many are concerned that turning the process over to the states would mean 50 different ways of certifying medical qualifications, much as there are differences from state to state in the CDL process. State government officials say they don't have the resources to take over the additional work.

The Federal Highway Administration officials in charge of the negotiations say that, although the government has planned to merge the two systems ever · How should delays at shippers; since the CDL came into existence, they'll reconsider if there's enough evidence that a merger is not advisable.



By Washington Editor RITA BONTZ

Rita Bontz offers weekly D.C. updates on Overdrive Online, located on the Internet at http://www.overdriveonline.com, e-mail bontz@overdriveonline.com.

LEUERAL A DATE

96-78

Dear Sir:

I am writing concerning the hours of service for truck drivers. Please note that I do drive a truck. Most people want to blane the driver of & e 3.6 blem. However most of the time the problem is with either the receiver or shipper. For example, a driver will go to the shipper and sit LEGS. AREGS. DIV. and wait for 4 to 6 hours to get loaded. The shipper then informs the driver that he has to have the commodity to the delivery point within 9 hours. The delivery point is 8 1/2 hours driving time away. The driver is told by his company that he is to be there on time. The driver cannot even stop to eat or get a shower, plus the fact that he has to drive when he would like to be sleeping. So the driver gets to the delivery point (on time). Upon arrival he is told that it is driver unload and he has to stack it a certain way on seperate pallets and if he doesn't well he has to restack it. So the load he has takes 4 to 6 hours to off load. If the driver hires a lumper he has to pay the lumper to unload it. At most grocery warehouses in California you either unload it yourself or hire a lumper. The trucking company approves the hiring. One time I took a load into a particular grocery warehouse the company offered me \$75.00 to unload I said no.1 contacted the lumper he said \$150.00, the company never hesitated they said yes. Is my labor worth less than the lumper?

My point is if the shipper wants their goods delivered on time at an ungodly hour. Then the shipper should make sure that the commodity leaves at a reasonable time. This type of scenario is common, it happens every day, If a shipper denies it they are simply lying. At the delivery point we are treated like dirt, we are made to understand that we are the **scumb** of the earth. What I do not understand is the receiving company ordered the goods, it is there on time,(it should not be my responsibility to unload it) and I am made to feel and told, by there actions that they do not want me there. Nor do they even want the goods that was ordered by their company. When you leave the Los Angeles basin and have to have it in Sacramento in 8 hours it is legally impossible. If logged properly it takes 8 1/2 hours, yet at times we are told it has to be there within 8 hours. Where is my time for a break and for a shower and something to eat, because I have not been home in 2 or 3 days. You see I would like to stop by my house and see my wife and children and get a change of clothes and something to eat, shower etc. Most of the time I stop at my house and do what I need to do, and when I get sleepy I stop the truck and go to sleep. It is my responsibility to get the load there on time and be safe. I will be safe first and the delivery time comes second. Most drivers out here are like that. There are exceptions to every

DOCKET MC-96-28-13
PAGE 1 OF 2

rule, but most drivers work hard and are safe. If you will look at statistics you will see that, especially when you compare truck caused accidents to automobile caused accidents.

Why is it that I am compelled by law to keep a log book of my activities, and a person driving in car from New York to California is not? Surely they will drive over 10 hours a day and not get enough sleep. Hours of service need to be revised but it needs to be even handed, shipper and receiver need to get there act together.

Sincerely yours

Marvin Rose 1172 W. **Damron**

Tulare, Ca. **93274**